

House Resolution 1400

By: Representatives Sellier of the 136th, Davis of the 109th, Black of the 174th, Sheldon of the 105th, Lindsey of the 54th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Requesting the United States Congress not to transfer Guantanamo Bay detainees to prisons
2 within the State of Georgia or any facility within the continental United States; and for other
3 purposes.

4 WHEREAS, the Guantanamo Bay detention centers have been used to house some of the
5 most lethal terrorists in the world, terrorists that took the lives of innocent Americans, plotted
6 continued atrocities, and posed an ongoing threat to the free people of the world; and

7 WHEREAS, on January 22, 2009, President Barack Obama ordered the closing of the
8 Guantanamo Bay facility which will result in the transfer of terrorist detainees currently
9 being held in Guantanamo Bay to other secure prison facilities; and

10 WHEREAS, the enemy combatants located at Guantanamo Bay pose a grave threat to the
11 lives and security of Americans and are among some of the most heinous criminals currently
12 within the custody of the United States; and

13 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia and particularly Georgia state prisons are not an
14 appropriate location to house enemy combatants for many reasons, including the following:

15 (1) Moving these terrorist detainees to locations within the continental United States will
16 facilitate the growth of terrorism activity within our borders by giving these terrorists new
17 opportunities to have access to and work closely with current prison populations,
18 allowing terrorists to establish contacts and gain support within our country;

19 (2) Terrorist prisoners will have a greater opportunity to utilize communication devices
20 such as cell phones and other contraband frequently discovered within state and federal
21 prisons;

22 (3) Due to economic hardships, state prisons are already overcrowded and understaffed
23 and are ill prepared to deal with the extra burdens of terrorist activity, including escape
24 plans and staff assaults; and

25 (4) Prisons within Georgia are not trained or staffed to deal with the issues of
26 intercepting, translating, or developing covert operations to stop terrorist prisoner
27 communications; and

28 (5) Georgia is a densely populated and rapidly growing state and a central point for
29 transportation, commerce and trade, and military reserves for the eastern, southern, and
30 southwestern United States, and infiltration by terrorists in this area would undermine the
31 security of the entire nation; and

32 WHEREAS, a new facility or facility outside the continental United States should be built
33 or found that may be designed specifically to handle such detainees, to avoid the possibility
34 of networking with current citizen prisoners, and also to reduce the threat of infiltration to
35 vital economic and military centers in Georgia or any other state.

36 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
37 this body requests the United States Congress to relocate Guantanamo Bay detainees to
38 facilities outside of the State of Georgia and outside the continental United States to avoid
39 making this area and the nation vulnerable to terrorist attack.

40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
41 and directed to transmit appropriate copies of this resolution to President Barack Obama and
42 to members of the Georgia Congressional delegation.